

action, these "species" are all used in addition to flt3-ligand, and are only recited in dependent claims 9, 11, and 13. Moreover, all of the "species" are recited in a *single Markush group* in each of claims 9, 11, and 13. The Examiner has provided no rationale for making a single Markush group the subject of two separate election of species requirements.

In view of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirements for election of species.

### AMENDMENT OF CLAIMS

Applicants respectfully request that the following amendment be entered before substantive examination of this application.

#### **In the Claims**

Please cancel claims 1-7 and 14. Please amend claims 9-13 as shown.

9. (Amended) A dendritic cell preparation according to claim 8 produced further by contacting the hematopoietic stem or progenitor cells with one or more compounds selected from the group consisting of GM-CSF, IL-4, TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-3, c-kit ligand, fusions of GM-CSF and IL-3, and CD40 binding protein[, 4-1BBL and antibodies reactive with 4-1BB].

A<sup>1</sup>  
10. (Amended) A [An antigen-expressing] dendritic cell population produced by the process of:

- (a) contacting hematopoietic stem or progenitor cells with flt3-ligand in an amount sufficient to generate a dendritic cell population;
- (b) either (i) exposing the dendritic cells to an antigen-specific peptide or (ii) transfecting the dendritic cells with a gene encoding an antigen-specific peptide; and
- (c) allowing the dendritic cells to process and express the antigen[; and
- (d) purifying the antigen-expressing dendritic cells].

11. (Amended) A dendritic cell population according to claim 10 wherein step (a) of the process further comprises contacting the hematopoietic stem or progenitor cells with one or more compounds selected from the group consisting of GM-CSF, IL-4, TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-3, c-kit ligand, fusions of GM-CSF and IL-3, and CD40 binding protein[, 4-1BBL and antibodies reactive with 4-1BB].